## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

- 1-33. (Canceled)
- 34. (Previously presented) A method of modulating development in a plant, the method comprising:

introducing into a plant an expression cassette comprising a promoter operably linked to an expression-inhibiting polynucleotide wherein the expression-inhibiting polynucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:5, thereby producing a plant that exhibits:

- (a) modulated floral organ identity;
- (b) modulated floral organ number;
- (c) increased meristem size; or
- (d) increased endosperm size.
- 35. (Canceled)
- 36. (Canceled)
- 37. (Canceled)
- 38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the promoter is a constitutive promoter.
- 39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein the promoter is a tissue-specific promoter.
  - 40. (Canceled)

Appl. No. 09/840,743 Amdt. dated November 17, 2005 Reply to Office Action of August 18, 2005

- 41. (Canceled)
- 42. (Canceled)
- 43. (Canceled)
- 44. (Canceled)
- 45. (Canceled)
- 46. (Canceled)
- 47. (Currently amended) A method of delaying flowering in a plant, the method comprising:

introducing into a plant an expression cassette comprising a promoter operably linked to a DMT polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising at least 80% identical to SEQ ID NO:2, wherein the polypeptide comprises a leucine zipper and a nuclear localization signal sequence, thereby delaying flowering of the plant compared to a plant lacking the expression cassette.

- 48. (Canceled)
- 49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the polynucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:5.
- 50. (Previously presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the polynucleotide comprises SEQ ID NO:1.
- 51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the promoter is a constitutive promoter.
- 52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 47, wherein the promoter is a tissue-specific promoter.